

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

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April 27, 2007

Mr. Devinder Singh  
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Caltrans  
1120 N Street  
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Item 06-12

## Recommendations

1. That Caltrans adopt the enclosed revisions to Figures 2B-16, 2B-16(CA) and 2B-17 of the California MUTCD, in order to both show the sign formats for special parking and loading signs and to minimize redundant conflicting formats.
2. That Caltrans assign revised and new sign numbers to reflect the revisions to Figures 2B-16, 2B-16(CA) and 2B-17.
3. That Caltrans adopt the enclosed text revisions to Sections 2B.39 and 2B.40 of the California MUTCD in order to reflect the sign format revisions and simplify the text.
4. That Caltrans issue interim guidelines for the revised figures and text described above so that public agencies in California may use these signs as soon as possible.

## Background

The City of San Francisco sent a letter dated August 14, 2006 to Caltrans regarding their use of non-standard signs. This matter was placed on the agenda of the October 26, 2006 meeting of the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC).

The letter transmitted attached photos of 53 regulatory, warning and guide signs with non-standard messages and formats intended to address special situations. The CTCDC did not wish to investigate the feasibility of using other methods or other traffic control devices to address the special situations. However, it was noted that the photos included 17 parking-related signs where the restrictions and authorized in the Vehicle Code but where no corresponding standards exist in the California MUTCD.

Chairman Mansourian recognized a need to examine the parking sign serves and appointed member John E. Fisher (City of Los Angeles) to the head a task force to address the need for uniform parking signs. He appointed to this task force:

Jacob Babico, San Bernardino County (member)  
Michael Robinson, San Diego County  
Richard Olea, City of San Francisco  
Howard Chan, City of Sacramento  
Ramon Gibbons, City of Sacramento

#### Task Force Work

The Task Force coordinated these efforts primarily through e-mail.

The Task Force work commenced by examining the Vehicle Code to identify special parking zones that public agencies may authorize. Then the corresponding signs in the California MUTCD were checked and it was discovered that many types of zones were not shown. They are summarized in Table 1.

The MUTCD's of other large states were research to see if they could provide guidance. Those states included New York, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Texas. Surprisingly, no guidance was found. Thus, we proceeded to develop new parking related signs, based on long-standard California principles of format, color, Vehicle Code text and adopted symbols.

California uses a variety of colored curb zones to delineate special parking zones. The practice is more extensive in California than in any other state, as the practice was developed in California. Accordingly a primary guiding principle in developing new special parking-related signs was to use sign colors that reflect the associated colored curb zones. For example, time limit parking, which can be shown by a green curb, can also be shown by a green-and-white sign, such as the R32(CA). Another example is "no stopping" which can be shown by red curb or by a red-and-white sign, such as the R26(S)(CA). The same concept applies to disabled parking with blue curb and blue-and-white signs, such as the R99(CA). Following this pattern, a commercial loading zone, which can be marked by yellow curb, is proposed to have a sign with the corresponding colors of black text on a yellow background. Likewise, those passenger loading and vehicle stand zones, which can be marked by white curb, are proposed to have signs with the corresponding colors of black text on a white background.

It was also noted that there are conflicting sign formats when Figures 2B-16 and 2B-16(CA) are compared. In the interest of uniformity and long-standing California practice, the inferior formats are proposed for deletion and are shown with a blue X across them.

Finally, the text of Sections 2B.39 and 2B.40 was reviewed based on the proposed revised Figures 2B-16, 2B-16(CA) and 2B-17. Based on this review, new text is proposed and other text is proposed for revision. Due to the number of new signs being added, it was determined that it would be more helpful to users to refer them to the applicable sections of the Vehicle Code, rather than provide text for every packing-related sign.



Table 1:

Parking Zones Mentioned in CVC  
Without Corresponding Standard Signs in California MUTCD

Parking Zone	Enabling CVC Section	Sign Number	Comment
School bus zone	21112	None	
Taxicab zone	21112	None	
Tour bus zone	21112	None	
Passenger loading zone	21458	R7-6	Not specific as to type of loading zone. "No parking" message conflicts with "loading" message.
Commercial/passenger loading zone	21458	R7-6	(Same as above)
Mail deposit zone	21458	None	
Parking regulations for Motorcycles	22503.5	None	
No Parking/Stopping for vehicles over 6' high	22505, 7	R28C(CA)	Existing sign format is non-standard. A new format would use a hierarchy of letter heights.
Preferential parking	22507	None	
Car share parking	22507.1	None	
No parking or restricted parking 2-6 a.m.	22507.5	None	
No parking for vehicles over 5 tons	22507.5	None	
No parking street sweeping	22507.6	None	Must be 17"x22" min, if posted one per block
Block wheels to curb	22509	None	
Disabled parking	22511.7, 22511.8	R7-8, R99(CA)	Section 22511.8 prescribes R99 (CA) sign. R7-8 sign conflicts with R99 (CA) sign
No public parking on private property	22658	None	

In presenting these recommendations to you, it should be noted that there was general consensus. However, there were some differences of opinion on the formats on some of the signs. In those cases where not all members of the Task Force could agree, the Chair has presented his recommendation.

Submitted by:



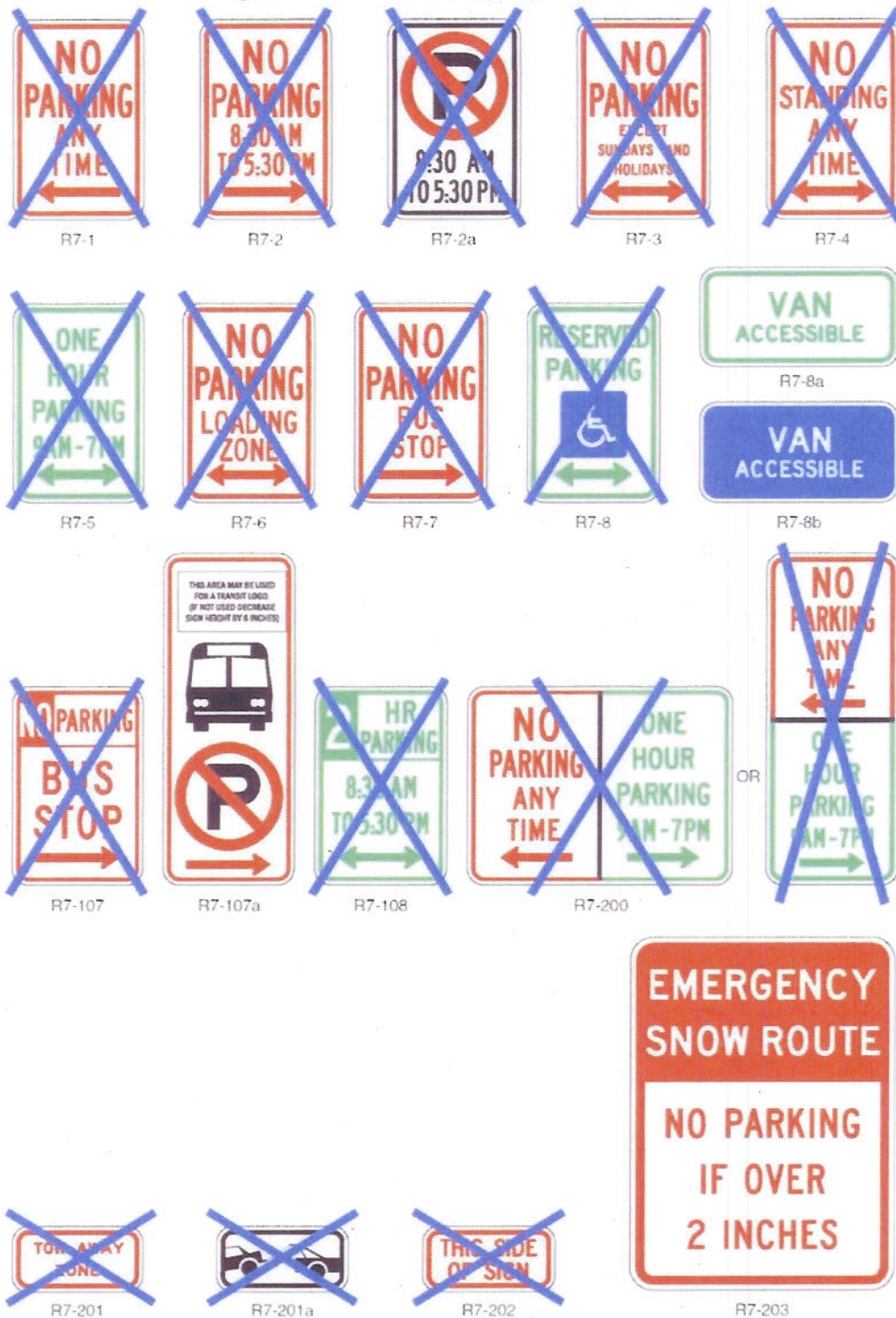
John E. Fisher

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Enclosures

Figure 2B-16. No Parking Signs (R7 Series)

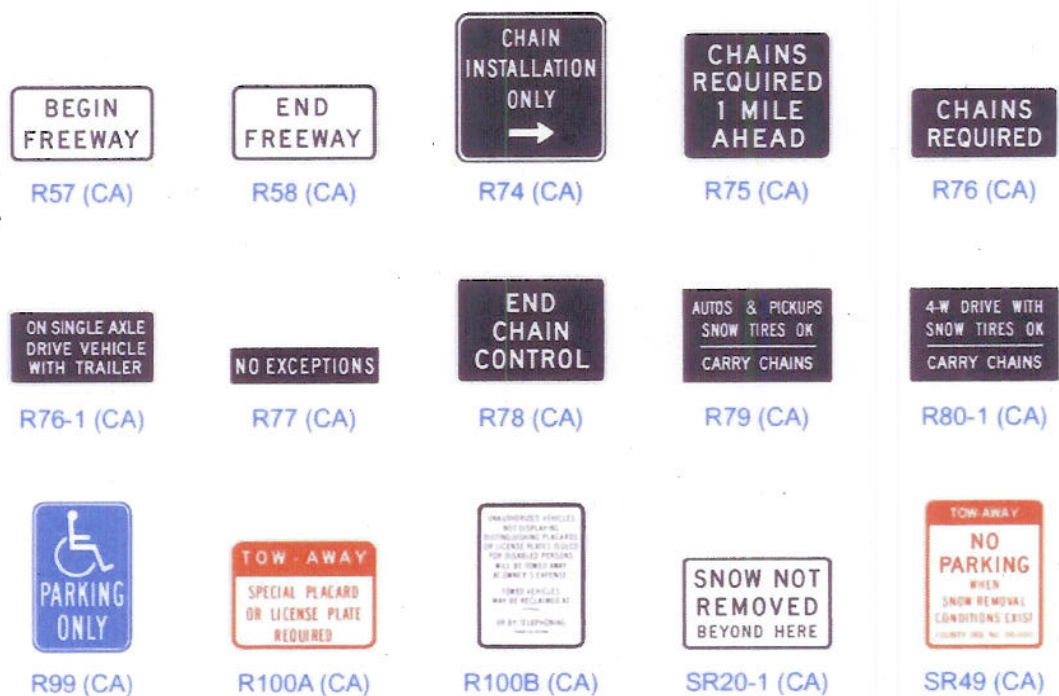




**Figure 2B-16 (CA). California No Parking Signs (Sheet 1 of 2)**



**Figure 2B-16 (CA). California No Parking Signs (Sheet 2 of 2)**



**Figure 2B-17. No Parking Signs (R8 Series)**



Figure 2B-16 (CA). California No Parking Signs (Proposed)

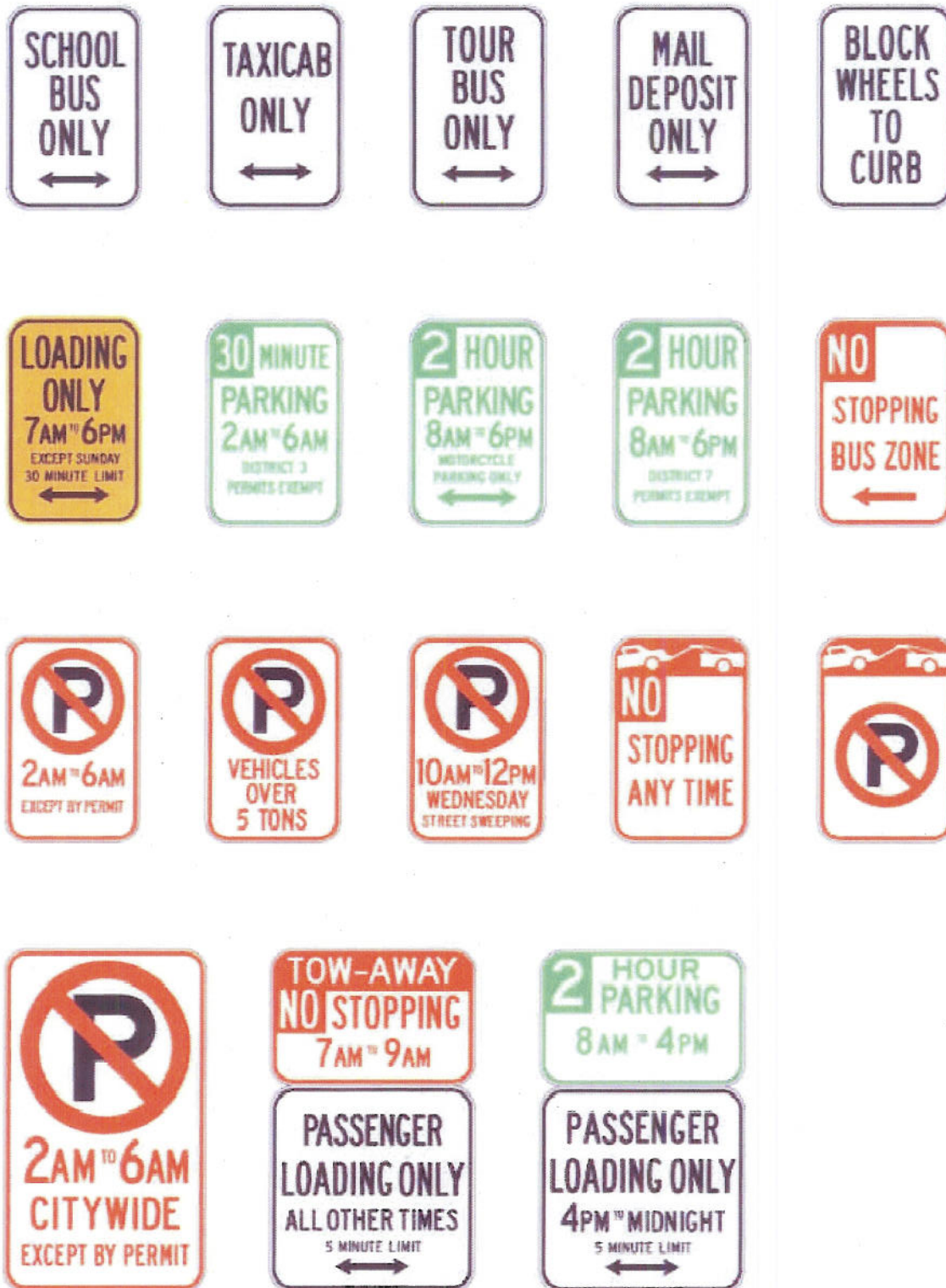
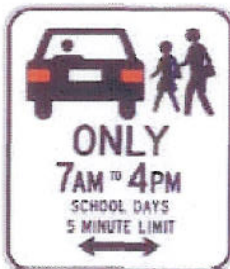
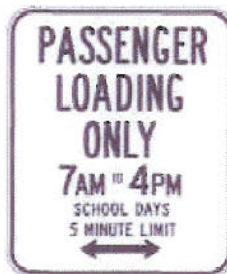




Figure 2B-16 (CA). California No Parking Signs (Proposed)







**Section 2B.39 Parking, Standing, and Stopping, and Loading Signs (R7 and R8 Series)**

**Support:**

Signs governing the parking, stopping, and standing of vehicles cover a wide variety of regulations, and only general guidance can be provided here. The word "standing" when used on the R7 and R8 series of signs refers to the practice of a driver keeping the vehicle in a stationary position while continuing to occupy the vehicle. Section 463 of the Vehicle Code defines "parking", which involves the standing of a vehicle, whether occupied or not. However, the temporary loading or unloading of merchandise or passengers is not considered parking. Section 587 of the Vehicle Code defines "stopping" which involves the cessation of vehicle movement. Typical examples of parking, stopping, and standing loading signs are shown in (see Figures 2B-16, 2B-16(CA) and 2B-17). are as follows:

- A. NO PARKING ANY TIME (R7-1);
- B. NO PARKING 8:30 AM TO 5:30 PM (R7-2);
- C. NO PARKING EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS (R7-3);
- D. NO STANDING ANY TIME (R7-4);
- E. ONE HOUR PARKING 9 AM - 7 PM (R7-5);
- F. NO PARKING LOADING ZONE (R7-6);
- G. NO PARKING BUS STOP (R7-7, R7-107, R7-107a);
- H. RESERVED PARKING for persons with disabilities (R7-8);
- I. NO PARKING ON PAVEMENT (R8-1);
- J. NO PARKING EXCEPT ON SHOULDER (R8-2);
- K. NO PARKING (R8-3);
- L. No Parking (R8-3a); and
- M. NO STOPPING ON PAVEMENT (R8-5).

**Support:**

Refer to CVC 22500 21112 through 22658 regarding the authorities for the various parking, stopping and loading 22522 for Parking, Standing, and Stopping signs.

**Parking Regulations**

**Option:**

Parking on freeways which have full control of access and no crossing at grade may be prohibited under CVC 21960.

Parking on other State highways may be restricted or prohibited under CVC 22505 and 22506.

**Support:**

The Department of Transportation's District Director is authorized to issue orders prohibiting or restricting the parking of vehicles on State highways. The District Director is also authorized to approve ordinances or resolutions of local authorities prohibiting or restricting parking on State highways.

The delegation of maintenance activities to local authorities is usually exercised under the authority of Streets and Highways Code Section 130. Under a proposal to delegate maintenance and parking regulation authority under CVC Section 22506, the Department retains the authority to regulate parking under the three conditions specified in CVC Section 22505(a). The District Director of Transportation is authorized to make this delegation of authority.

**Policy on Parking Restrictions**

**Guidance:**

No Parking Permitted Stopping at Any Time – Parking Stopping should be prohibited at locations where the prohibition would reduce the risk of collisions or where parking would unduly interfere with the movement of traffic.

No Parking Anytime – Parking should be prohibited at locations where the prohibition is necessary to accommodate other activities and objectives, such as street sweeping, snow removal, public safety or preferential parking.



**Option:**

Major factors that may be considered for **No Stopping Anytime** include:

- Narrow roadway width.
- Restricted visibility at intersections for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Narrow shoulder width.
- Conversion of a parking lane to a through lane or right-turn lane.

**Support:**

Limited Time Parking - The Department of Transportation does not issue orders for limited time parking.

**Option:**

Limited time parking restrictions may be initiated by local authorities and approved by the Department. Parking prohibitions between certain hours may also be initiated by local authorities.

**Standard:**

**Before time limit parking regulations are approved in rural areas, assurance shall be obtained from the enforcement agency that the regulation will be actively enforced.**

**Special Signs**

**Guidance:**

The PARK PARALLEL (R24(CA)) sign should only be used where diagonal parking is prevalent, in violation of CVC 22502.

When used, the "No Parking, 2AM to 6AM Citywide Except By Permit" sign should be posted below a G9-5 (CA) sign or downstream from a freeway off ramp.

**Option:**

The OK TO PARK ON BRIDGE (R22(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists that parking is permitted on a bridge. Refer to CVC 22500(k).

The PARK OFF PAVEMENT (R25(CA)) sign may be used where it is likely that vehicles may stop on the traveled way and interfere with through traffic. It may also be used as a temporary sign in snow areas where parking is permitted.

~~The NO PARKING ANY TIME with arrow (R28(CA)) or without arrow (R26(CA)) signs may be used to inform motorists of a parking prohibition at a specific location. The NO PARKING ANY TIME with arrow (R28A(CA)) or without arrow (R26A(CA)) signs may be used where a larger size is desirable.~~

CVC Section 21718 prohibits the stopping, parking or leaving of any vehicle upon a freeway. Large NO PARKING ANY TIME (R26(CA)) or EMERGENCY PARKING ONLY (R8-4) signs may be installed on freeways which have full control of access and no crossing at grade to inform traffic that stopping, parking or leaving of any vehicle upon a freeway is prohibited.

~~The TOW AWAY NO PARKING ANY TIME (R26J(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of a parking prohibition and tow away zone at a specific location.~~

~~The NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER (R26B(CA)) sign may be used to prohibit parking at a specific location. The NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER (R26C(CA)) sign may be used where a larger size is desirable.~~

~~The No Parking (R8-3a) sign may be used to inform motorists of a parking prohibition at a specific location. The No Parking plaques (R26E(CA)) may be placed below the R8-3a sign to indicate specific parking exceptions or restrictions such as EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS, 6 AM — 6 PM / MON — FRI, ON BRIDGE, ON PAVEMENT, EXCEPT ON SHOULDERS, 6 AM — 6 PM w/Arrow, HERE TO CORNER, LOADING ZONE w/Arrow and TOW — AWAY ZONE.~~

The NO STOPPING FIRE LANE (R26F(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of a designated fire lane. Refer to CVC 22500.1.

**The NO STOPPING ANY TIME (R26(S)(CA)) sign shall be used to inform motorists of a No Stopping Zone at a specific location.**

**Option:**

The NO STOPPING ANY TIME (R26A(S) (CA)) sign may be used where a larger size is desirable.

The NO PARKING ON BRIDGE (R27(CA)) sign may be used only where parking is prevalent in violation of CVC 22500(k). The NO PARKING ON BRIDGE (R27A(CA)) sign may be used where a larger size is desirable.

**The NO STOPPING ANY TIME with arrow (R28(S)(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of no stopping zones. Use only where the beginning and ending points of the prohibition are not otherwise indicated. The NO STOPPING ANY TIME with arrow (R28A(S)(CA)) sign may be used where a larger size is desirable.**

**Standard:**

**The NO PARKING VEHICLES OVER 6 FT HIGH (R28B(CA)) sign shall be used to inform motorists of a parking prohibition, which applies only to vehicles greater than 1.8 m (6 ft) in height.**

**Option:**

The R28B(CA) sign may be installed within 30 m (100 ft) of an intersection to improve the visibility of the motorists in accordance with CVC 22507.

**Standard:**

**The No Stopping/No Parking Specific Hours (R29(CA)) sign shall be used to inform motorists of a stopping and parking prohibition during certain hours at a specific location.**

**The No Parking Specific Hours (R30(CA) and R30A(CA)) signs shall be used to inform motorists of a parking restriction during certain hours at a specific location.**

**Option:**

The No Parking/Parking Specific Hours (R31(CA) and R32B(CA)) and No Stopping/Parking Specific Hours (R31(S)(CA)) signs may be used to inform motorists of a stopping/parking prohibition during certain hours and a parking time limit during other hours at a specific location. The R31(S)(CA) sign is used for stopping prohibitions, generally during peak traffic hours.

The Limited Hour/Minute Parking Specific Hours (R32(CA) and R32A(CA)) signs may be used to inform motorists of a parking time limit with specific hours and/or minutes during certain hours at a specific location.

The Tow-Away No Stopping/No Parking Specific Hours (R37(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of no stopping and parking prohibitions and tow-away zone at a specific location.

The Tow-Away No Parking/Limited Hour Parking Specific Hours (R38(CA)) sign may be used to inform motorists of a parking restriction and tow-away zone at a specific location.

The Tow-Away No Stopping/Limited Hour Parking Specific Hours (R38(S)(CA)) sign may be used for stopping prohibitions, generally during peak hours.

The Disabled Parking Only (R99(CA)) sign may be used in on-street and off-street parking facilities to designate stalls for vehicles with a special identification license plate or a distinguishing placard for disabled persons.

**Support:**

The R99(CA) sign, blue pavement markings and handicapped symbol, are required for enforcement of these parking areas. Refer to CVC 22511.7 and 22511.8.

**Standard:**

**The VAN ACCESSIBLE (R7-8b) sign shall be mounted below the Disabled Parking Only (R99(CA)) sign of the disabled person parking space designated as the van accessible space as provided in the California Building Code Section 1129B.**



**Option:**

The TOW-AWAY SPECIAL PLACARD OR LICENSE PLATE REQUIRED (R100A(CA)) sign may be used with the R99(CA) sign to inform motorists that their vehicle will be towed away if they do not have a special identification license plate or a distinguishing placard for disabled persons.

**Standard:**

**The Disabled Tow-Away (R100B(CA)) sign shall be placed immediately adjacent to, and visible from, the stall or space, or at each entrance to an off street parking facility to inform motorists that their vehicle will be towed away if they park in designated stalls or spaces without a special identification license plate or a distinguishing placard for disabled persons. Refer to CVC 22511.8 and 22511.9.**

**Option:**

The TOW-AWAY NO PARKING WHEN SNOW REMOVAL CONDITIONS EXIST (SR49(CA)) sign may be used to prohibit or restrict the parking or standing of vehicles on designated streets or highways, or portions thereof, for the purpose of snow removal. Refer to CVC 22510.

**Guidance:**

The SNOW NOT REMOVED BEYOND HERE (SR20-1(CA)) sign should be erected at the beginning of the snow season and removed in the spring when the road is opened. The SR20-1(CA) sign should be placed at a location that will provide a motorist the opportunity to turn around.

**Option:**

The CHAIN INSTALLATION ONLY (R74(CA)) sign may be erected where parked vehicles interfere with normal winter operations.

**Guidance:**

The R74(CA) sign should be turned or covered at the end of the chain requirement season.

**Standard:**

**The CHAINS REQUIRED (X MILE (X MILES)) AHEAD (R75(CA)) sign shall be used to give advance notice that chains are required ahead.**

**The CHAINS REQUIRED (R76(CA)) sign shall be used at the beginning of chain control areas and intermittently as needed.**

**Support:**

The R76(CA) sign is installed in combination with the Speed Limit (R2-1), R79(CA) and R80(CA) signs.

**Option:**

The ON SINGLE AXLE DRIVE VEHICLE WITH TRAILER (R76-1(CA)) sign may be used when road conditions are such that only single drive vehicles with trailers need chains.

**Standard:**

**When used, the R76-1(CA) sign shall be mounted below the CHAINS REQUIRED (R76(CA)) sign.**

**The NO EXCEPTIONS (R77(CA)) sign shall be used with the Speed Limit (R2-1) and CHAINS REQUIRED (R76(CA)) signs when chains are required with no exceptions.**

**The END CHAIN CONTROL (R78(CA)) sign shall be used to advise the motorist that the chain control area has ended.**

**The AUTOS & PICKUPS SNOW TIRES OK – CARRY CHAINS (R79(CA)) sign shall be used with the Speed Limit (R2-1) and CHAINS REQUIRED (R76(CA)) signs when chains are required but autos and pickups with snow tires are excepted from using chains.**

**The 4-W DRIVE WITH SNOW TIRES OK – CARRY CHAINS (R80-1(CA)) sign shall be used with the Speed Limit (R2-1) and CHAINS REQUIRED (R76(CA)) signs when chains are required.**

**Support:**

Vehicles with four wheel drive and snow tires on all four wheels are exempt from using chains.



**Section 2B.40 Design of Parking, ~~Standing, and Stopping, and Loading~~ Signs**

**Support:**

Discussions of parking signs and parking regulations in this Section apply not only to parking, but also to ~~standing and~~ stopping and loading.

**Standard:**

The legend on parking signs shall state applicable regulations. Parking signs shall conform to the standards of shape, color, and location.

The colors in parking signs shall conform to their associated curb zone colors. Where parking is prohibited at all times or at specific times, the basic design for parking signs shall have a red legend and border on a white background (Parking Prohibition signs). Where only limited-time parking or parking in a particular manner are permitted, the signs shall have a green legend and border on a white background (Permissive Parking signs). Where an exclusive zone is established for passenger loading or mail deposit the signs shall have a black legend on a white background. Where an exclusive zone is established for freight or passenger loading, the signs shall have a black legend on a yellow background. Where an exclusive zone is established for disabled persons, the signs shall have a white legend on a blue background, as shown in the R99 (CA) sign.

In zones where vehicles may be towed for violating the posted prohibition restriction, the "Tow Away" message or symbol shall be used.

**Guidance:**

Parking signs should display the following information from top to bottom of the sign, in the order listed:

- A. Any tow-away message or symbol.
- A.B. The restriction or prohibition;
- ~~B.~~ C. The times of the day that it is applicable, if not at all hours; and
- ~~C.~~ D. The days of the week that it is applicable, if not every day.
- E. Qualifying or supplementary information.
- F. Exemptions to the restriction or prohibition.

If the parking restriction applies to a limited area or zone, the limits of the restriction should be shown by arrows. ~~or supplemental plaques.~~ If arrows are used and if the sign is at the end of a parking zone, there should be a single-headed arrow pointing in the direction that the regulation is in effect. If the sign is at an intermediate point in a zone, there should be ~~either no arrows or~~ a double-headed arrow pointing both ways. When a single sign is used at the transition point between two parking zones, it should display a right and left arrow pointing in the direction that the respective restrictions apply. Where special parking restrictions are imposed during heavy snowfall, Snow Emergency signs should be installed. The legend will vary according to the regulations, but the signs should be vertical rectangles, having a white background with the upper part of the plate a red background.

When used to direct drivers to van-accessible parking facilities, a VAN ACCESSIBLE (R7-8b) plaque (see Figure 2B-16) should be mounted below the D9-6 sign. ~~Where parking spaces that are reserved for persons with disabilities are designated to accommodate wheelchair vans, a VAN ACCESSIBLE (R7-8a) plaque (see Figure 2B-16) should be mounted below the R7-8 sign.~~